



U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons
United States Penitentiary

3057 Easton Turnpike Road
Waymart, Pennsylvania 18472

For Immediate Release
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Public Information Officer
Kim Straesser
(570) 488-8213

Staff Homicide at the United States Penitentiary (USP), Canaan, Pennsylvania

It is with great sadness that we report the untimely death of Correctional Officer Eric Williams. Last night, Officer Williams, while working in a housing unit, was fatally assaulted by an inmate using a homemade weapon. Staff responded immediately and restrained the inmate. Officer Williams was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead at approximately 11:30 p.m.

Warden Ebbert said, "This is clearly the darkest day in our institution's short history, and we are in shock over this senseless loss of a colleague and friend."

Officer Williams, 34, was from Nanticoke, Pennsylvania. He began his career with the Bureau of Prisons on September 11, 2011.

The institution has been placed on lockdown status. The community was never in any danger. An investigation into this tragic event is currently underway.

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